

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force our local station, WGME, to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election without an opportunity for a response from another viewpoint, and their frequent broadcasting of opinions of Mark Hyman, also without presenting an alternative opinion, represent glaring abuses of the trust for honesty and unbiased opinions that we have given broadcasters in exchange for the use of our airways.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive unbiased news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.